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SCOPING MEETING

*San Francisco to San Jose
High-Speed Train Project EIR/EIS*



U.S. Department
of Transportation
Federal Railroad
Administration





SCOPING PROCESS

2008

San Francisco to San Jose EIR/EIS

2011

Articulate
Project
Goals

Study:

- Detailed Corridor Level Design
- Corridor Environmental Impacts
- Alternatives where applicable

Prepare Draft
San Francisco
to
San Jose
EIR/EIS

Formally
Adopt Final
San Francisco
to San Jose
EIR/EIS

SCOPING

PUBLIC
COMMENT





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SCOPING PROCESS

Scoping Objectives

- Identifies Affected Public / Agency Issues
- Addresses Environmental Impacts and Mitigation
- Outlines the Key Steps in the Environmental Process

Comment Period: Open through March 6, 2009

- Receive Written Comments
- Web-Based Commenting (Send to: comments@hsr.ca.gov)
- Develop Scoping Report



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STATEWIDE PROGRAM EIR/EIS

- 800 miles
- Connects Northern and Southern California
 - Service to:
 - Los Angeles
 - Orange County
 - Inland Empire
 - San Diego
 - Central Valley
 - San Francisco Bay Area
 - Sacramento
- San Francisco to Los Angeles: about 2.5 Hrs.



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LEAD AGENCIES

STATE

- **California High-Speed Rail Authority**
 - California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)
Lead Agency

FEDERAL

- **Federal Railroad Administration**
 - National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)
Lead Agency



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HIGH-SPEED TRAINS - TECHNOLOGY

- **State-of-the-art System**
- **Electric-powered**
 - Steel-wheel-on-steel-rail
- **Fully Grade Separated**
 - No vehicles/No pedestrians
- **Double tracked with offline stations allowing for express service**
- **Proven reliable/safe technology**
 - Operational throughout Europe and Asia
- **HST trains will operate at reduced speeds between San Francisco and San Jose**



France—TGV



Germany—ICE



Japan—Shinkansen



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SAN FRANCISCO TO SAN JOSE STUDY AREA & EXPRESS TRAVEL TIMES



San Francisco
to
San Jose

30 minutes



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WHY A PROJECT-LEVEL EIR/EIS?

- Tiers from approved statewide program EIR/EIS and approved Bay Area to Central Valley HST program EIR/EIS
- Addresses State/Federal environmental requirements
- Considers environmental impacts at a site-specific level of detail
- Evaluates the corridor alignment selected in the Bay Area to Central Valley HST Program EIR/EIS
- Analyzes various project alternatives (including numerous local grade separation projects)
- Provides for Transit Hubs/Intermodal Centers at:
 - Preferred Stations at **Transbay Transit Center, Millbrae, Diridon**
 - Potential Station at either Redwood City or Palo Alto





TOPICAL ISSUES TO BE ANALYZED IN THE EIR/EIS INCLUDE:

- Air Quality
- Noise/Vibration
- Traffic and Circulation
- Land Use, Development, Planning, & Growth
- Biological Resources—Section 7 or Section 10, 2081 Permit
- Wetlands/Waters of the United States—Sections 401 & 404, 1600
- Community Impacts/Environmental Justice
- Parks and Recreational Facilities—Section 4(f)
- Historic/Archeological Resources—Section 106
- Construction Impacts
- Cumulative Impacts
- Visual Quality & Aesthetics
- Hazards and Hazardous Materials
- Flood Hazards, Floodplains, and Water Quality





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PROJECT ALTERNATIVES TO BE DISCUSSED IN EIR/EIS

- **No-Build/No-Project Alternative**
 - No Major Capacity Enhancement
 - Implement Funded Improvements Only
- **High-Speed Train Alternatives**
 - Statewide HST Alternative (Linking Entire System)
 - HST Alignment and Station Options
 - Provides for Local Grade Separations



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KEY HIGH-SPEED TRAIN ISSUES

- Historical and Cultural Resources, including train stations
- Community Character – visual, land use and noise compatibility
- Accessibility of Stations from Local Communities
- Connectivity with Other Modes of Travel
- Constructability of the HST System
- Power Supply / Energy Requirements
- Right-of-Way Constraints
- Safety and Security
- Station Development



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PROJECT-LEVEL EIR/EIS EVENTUAL OUTCOME ?

- Authority/FRA - Approves Project-level CEQA/NEPA Documentation
- Provides for a Precise Corridor Alignment
- Provides for Several Stations to be Developed
- Identifies Corridor/Right-of-Way Requirements
- Supports Local Community Land Planning
- Avoids/Reduces/Mitigates Environmental Impacts





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CONTACT INFORMATION

Comment by Mail/Fax

Attn: San Francisco to San Jose HST Project EIR/EIS
925 L Street, Suite 1425
Sacramento, CA 95814
Fax (916) 322-0827

Comment by E-mail

Email: comments@hsr.ca.gov

Subject line: San Francisco to San Jose HST

For questions, call project information line at
(510) 587-8640



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